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Man charged in bank robberies armed with handgun and hoax bomb

(Indianapolis, Ind.) Marion County Prosecutor Terry Curry announced today that charges have been filed against a man accused of bank robbery and attempting to rob another while armed with a handgun and a device he claimed was a bomb. Roderick Walker has been charged with the following crimes:

- Armed Robbery (Level 3 Felony)
- Attempt Armed Robbery (Level 3 Felony)
- Two counts of Criminal confinement (Level 3 Felony)
- Two counts of Intimidation (Level 5 Felony)
- Two counts of Carrying a Handgun Without a License (Level 5 Felony)
- Two counts of Possession of a Hoax Device (Level 6 Felony)
- Two counts of False Reporting (Level 6 Felony)

According to the probable cause affidavit filed in the case, on December 22, 2014, Walker allegedly entered the Chase Bank at 2955 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Street, displaying a handgun and placing a suspicious package on a teller's desk. The teller was told that inside the bag was a bomb that had a detonator with a one mile radius. The device was described by the teller as having duct tape and a circuit board with a flashing light. Walker then had the victim approach the teller line, open the teller drawers and remove the money. He left what was believed by the teller to be a bomb when he exited the bank. The bank was evacuated, and the IMPD Explosive Ordinance Disposal team cleared the bank. The package was subsequently determined to be a fake device.

On January 5, Walker allegedly entered a Chase Bank at 3000 East New York Street, approached the desk of a teller, and stated he wanted to open an account. Walker then opened his bag and informed the teller a bomb was inside. He then exposed a handgun, demanded money, and approached the teller line with the victim. While Walker handed a note to a second teller, the first teller was able to get behind the bank robbery protective glass and closed the door. Walker then exited the bank and received no money.

An anonymous tip led to the identification of Walker as the suspect in both robberies.

Walker also faces Armed Robbery, Kidnapping and Criminal Confinement charges in a pending case filed in October, for which he had previously posted bond.

The new charges have been assigned to Court 3. An initial hearing was held earlier today. The case is now scheduled for a pre-trial conference on March 4 and jury trial on March 12.

A charge of a crime is merely an accusation, and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven quilty.